



## **STORMWATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION WORKSHOP TO FOCUS ON STORMWATER FACILITY MAINTENANCE**

Libertyville, IL – Most new subdivision homeowner's associations in the county are probably unaware they are responsible for maintenance of stormwater facilities like detention ponds, swales, buffers and wetlands. The Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) invites all associations and property owners to a workshop on how to maintain stormwater facilities on Saturday, October 25, 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Warren Township Office, 17801 W. Washington, Gurnee. The workshop is free.

The workshop will cover:

- Why maintenance is important
- Identifying what kind of facilities you have
- How to spot a failing facility
- Putting together a maintenance plan and schedule
- Who is responsible for what and why

**- more -**

## **P. 2 – HOMEOWNERS MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP**

- Ways to improve water quality

The workshop is based on SMC's "Guide to Maintaining Stormwater Best Management Practices" aimed at guiding homeowner's associations and property owners on proper maintenance of stormwater facilities. The Guide will be given to participants.

"The Lake County Watershed Development Ordinance (WDO) requires on-site detention and other stormwater features in subdivisions and the maintenance of those facilities. Maintenance is important because it ensures these facilities will operate as they were designed, to prevent flooding in their neighborhoods and downstream," said Mike Warner, SMC Chief Engineer.

Equally important is water quality. The WDO and even the federal Clean Water Act encourages or requires control of urban pollutants. Algae blooms, pond bank erosion and invasive species are all signs that the facility is not being maintained and that water quality is being impacted.

"Per the WDO, these facilities also are designed to reduce nonpoint source pollution, those sources of pollution that come from a variety of sources like fertilizer running off your lawn into a pond, grease and oil from the streets, and even runoff from your roofs," said Warner.

The workshop will highlight ways to improve water quality and to encourage your neighbors to get involved in easy maintenance around their homes.

The workshop is free and open to the public. Please register by calling the Stormwater Management Commission at 847-918-5260 or email: [cgarner@co.lake.il.us](mailto:cgarner@co.lake.il.us). You can visit SMC's website to see view the workshop flyer at [www.co.lake.il.us/smc](http://www.co.lake.il.us/smc), or the "Guide to Maintaining Stormwater Best Management Practices" at: [www.co.lake.il.us/smc/publications](http://www.co.lake.il.us/smc/publications).